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Briefs*

Intelligence and the MBFR Talks

The attached three papers provide background on the MBFR talks--the negotiations for achieving mutual and balanced reductions of conventional forces in Central Europe.

- That at Tab 1, an excerpt from a recent study of MBFR drafted by an interagency group at the request of the NSC Staff, briefly describes the factors that motivated the start of the negotiations and the environment in which they are now conducted.
- That at Tab 2 examines the intelligence methods and bureaucratic mechanism involved in reaching NATO-agreed estimates of Warsaw Pact military manpower--the principal "currency" in which the current talks contemplate that reductions would be taken.
- That at Tab 3 describes some of the inherent limitations on the intelligence community's capability to detect--and, more important, prove--Warsaw Pact non-compliance with an MBFR treaty.

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